

BHS SCC Minutes

Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 3:30pm in the Media Center

BHS Mission Statement

At Brighton High, we choose to be better today than we were yesterday.

In attendance:

Employee Members: Tom Sherwood, Marielle Rawle, Lisa Prudden, Catherine Bates, Mindy Curtis, Ethan Greene, Aaron Hadfield, Ernest Pulliam, Janice Spencer-Wise, Sierra West, Mikala Mortensen, Ann Hardman, Christina Shaw (counselor present)

Parent Members: Lisa Devashrayee, Dave Castleton, Rene Hunter, Kim Johnson, Shelia Page, Katie Tatton, Sarah Jane Weaver, Julie Clawson, Mila Gleason, Michelle Kushlan, Brady Lee, Matt Misbach, Will Powley, Lisa Rowley, Cheryl Simmons, Liz Thomas

Visitors: Holly Judkins (PTSA Rep), Natalie Meyer, Ron Meyer, Jonnie Knoble

Welcome: 3:37pm

SCC BUSINESS:

- Approve November Meeting Minutes
 - Motion to approve: Ernest Pulliam
 - Second: Janice Spencer-Wise

- Sub Committee – Reports

- Community Forums/Feeder School Meeting = Feeder mtg – Tuesday, January 15th

- Invites sent out? Lisa Prudden sent them out this week
- Topics finalized?
 - AP Capstone
 - Building update
 - PTSA Student Board
 - Bullying

- Attendance Policy

- Tom provided the NG Recovery Menu
- Survey for attendance Policy – Purpose, focus and is it needed? Will Powley
 - Lisa has not had any questions about it and has heard from parents that it seems pretty straight forward
 - Tom said he is happy to send out a survey if we feel that we need it, but we don't have any intentions of changing it at this point. We feel like it is fair and is working.
 - The district is focused on attendance right now and just had a principals meeting where they received training on strategies that help with attendance. The big push will be on using proactive strategies to get students to attend. A student who misses 5% of school days is a concern. This means 9 days in a regular school year for any reason. If a student misses 10% during the school year, they are considered "at risk."
 - Data shows that we have improved a bit since 2 years ago. The punitive aspect of the attendance policy has been significantly changed. Our attendance has not dropped below what it was since implementing the new policy.
 - Consensus is that we do not need a survey at this point. Will thanked those with feedback and agreed that a survey isn't needed at this point in time.

- Above & Beyond Award

- 1st Tri Awarded to: Mortensen, Gillespie, Hodges
- Send electronic request out to parents for 2nd Tri awards – Jan 16th - 24th
- Tom suggested including who won in previous trimesters, so we get new names.

- Schedule Options Committee

BHS Committee decided on Reps to send to the district wide committee. Mila Gleason, Katie Tatton, Aaron Hadfield & Mindy Curtis were chosen by their respective groups.

- There is a meeting scheduled with all principals this Friday. He will discuss with them when to set the first meeting with all School's SCC's.
 - Tom mentioned that there are many logistical problems with being the only school in the whole valley on the trimester.
 - The district would like all high schools to be on the same schedule; however, they are leaving it up to communities to determine their school schedule.
 - Aaron Hadfield commented that he wants to understand the purpose of the committee. The purpose of the committee is to research different schedules and take these back to the district and propose a possible new common schedule for all schools. Tom said that the agenda is that the committee will present options and hope that we can all find a common schedule that all of the district high schools will agree to.
 - The School Board has emphasized the intent that the community has to support the schedule. The district will not enforce the idea that everyone should be on the same schedule. They want it left up to the communities.
 - Tom discussed some of the logistical problems with the trimester and how it affects our school in terms of the district.
 - Question was posed about why Brighton transitioned to trimesters. A principal got permission to pilot it in the mid 90's. The students, teachers, and community liked it and we have been on trimester since that time.
 - Discussed collaboration time. It's not easy for teachers on the trimester to find collaboration time. It is not built into the schedule like it is at other schools. Our teachers cannot collaborate with teachers at other schools because we are on a different schedule. There may be ways to incorporate an early out/late start, but we will need to research it.
 - The schedule committee would like to design a rubric to rate the proposed schedules and how effective they are. Aaron Hadfield expressed concerns about this due to different teachers views of what is important.
- CSD Board of Education discussion – Dress Code Policy change, feedback requested
 - Most Changes on page 2 where things were deleted and simplified.
 - Some were not happy with the simplifying of the language.
 - Tom discussed the importance of the dress code changes. It's difficult to enforce the dress code (especially as a male). It has become hard to define what is appropriate dress and who gets to decide this. Focus is now on keeping students in school, especially students with the least amount of resources. It is hard to send a student home for dress code issues. Students are more sensitive than they have ever been. In most cases, parents know what their students are wearing to school and how do we tell parents that their students can't dress a particular way if the parents approve of it. Tom is worried about the students that don't have any other clothes to wear.
- Comments:
- Liz Thomas – Walking through the halls can be very uncomfortable because of what many of the students are wearing - “disgusting.” Liz is not happy with how some things were stated in the policy. The part of the policy that I didn't agree with was under BOARD POLICY: #3 recognizing in most instances parents/guardians are primarily responsible for their students'

dress and grooming. It's nearly impossible for parents to control what their high school students wear unless with them at all times. Changing clothes after leaving home is a real thing.

- Tom mentioned that the changes in the dress code are reflecting societies standards. We have to be careful how we write it and we can't focus on "distraction" as a reason for dress code policies. He also feels like the hat policy does not reflect current society and BHS has not been implementing it.
 - Teacher mentioned that they do enforce it in their room, and all have been okay with it.
- Aaron Hadfield – We need to consider our role in teaching students. We impact the culture and have a big influence on what the culture can be. We need to keep our responsibility in mind as we address the dress code policies. The school is a community and we do set some standards and we can set some standards.
- Will Powley – Asked whether the dress code is set by the district or the school.
 - Tom said that it is up to the district to determine the dress code, but we have input. He also stated that we will not be stricter at Brighton than the standard that the district sets.
- Brady Lee – Asked teachers if the dress code is really a distraction?

Response –

- Ann Hardman – she has students that come in clothes that are revealing and is under the impression that it does distract other students. If she asks students to put on a jacket, most will do it.
- Discussion about how many students were wearing midriff today. Comment was made by teachers that the number was in the hundreds. One comment was made that this is the current fashion and that is what is sold in stores, so it is unrealistic to expect students to dress differently. This is what is on the racks.
- We need something that is reasonable to enforce, otherwise we will spend all of our time enforcing it.
- Comment was made that with the current culture and "me too" movement, it is hard to say anything. This is a national movement.
- **Section 4.1.2 – we need to add the word "images" to that**
- Dress codes are overwhelmingly focused on women. Why is everyone worried only about how girls are dressed?
 - It was mentioned about boys taking off their shirts at dances. This too needs to stop.
- Question – What do students think?
 - SBO's have had influence in the Dress Code for dances. But every year times/trends/fashion are changing and that policy doesn't. Also need to advertise it more. If aware then being turned away is easier for those enforcing it.
 - Recently, Tom discussed the dress code with a group of students. Their feedback was that they like being able to wear hats, especially with the cold weather. They also feel that the dress code is fine. They think that students should be able to wear what they want to wear. In addition, they didn't see the dress code enforced any more or less in the past than it is currently enforced
- Ethan Greene – Comment about students that just want to test the boundaries and any rule we have, they will test it, but we should still have the expectations.
- Janice Spencer-Wise – if we don't enforce the dress code, students will continue to push/test it. She feels like dress code matters and we should follow it.
- Liz Thomas – The policy should be enforced. If parents and students sign the dress code policy during registration, they should then understand the policy and agree to follow it.
 - Comment made that we don't have a choice about signing the policies. Parents have to sign it in order to get their child registered.
- Tom – We have been encouraging the district to update the dress code policy for a while. In the buildings, we are trying to deal with the current society and attitudes towards dress. If we have good arguments and solid ground to stand on, we can enforce it.

- Tom explained that we haven't been enforcing the dress code well at this point, because the dress code is outdated. Once we have a new policy, we will enforce it.
 - He also mentioned that he wouldn't want to tell a female student that was wearing an expensive dress (\$500), that her parents bought for a dance, that she couldn't wear it because it didn't follow dress code policy. Once the policy is updated to reflect current trends then it will be easier to enforce.
- Aaron Hadfield – We need to decide as a community what it is that we are willing to stand for. What are issues that are worth the fight and what aren't, but they should reflect the community of Brighton.
- Liz Thomas pointed out that the word is “disruption” not “distraction” in the policy.
- Kim Johnson - Feels that Brighton should approach dress code more from the perspective of “professionalism.” If the aim of Brighton is to make all students college and career ready, then we need to be teaching all students how to dress in a professional manner in order to prepare them for their futures.
- Jonnie Knoble - it's really hard to enforce “professional dress.” Who defines what it is? Happy when students made the effort instead of judging them for what they are wearing. Example given: girl wears a skirt to school for her professional points for class. Though the skirt was “too short” and was the only skirt she owned. Better that she is there than not to show up or try to get her points for class.
- Tom emphasized again that the district wants feedback, so please get involved and send in your comments. Specific wording and definitions are what is needed. Not just thoughts and perceptions.
- Email Tom or Jeff Christensen at the district with any specific comments about the dress code tom.sherwood@canyonsdistrict.org or Jeffrey.Christensen@canyonsdistrict.org

COUNSELOR'S REPORT:

- Christina Shaw represented the counselors
 - Passed out counseling center newsletter
 - CCR with current juniors that will continue into February
 - Events - Jan. 30th College Day, Feb. 1st – scholarship deadline, ACT prep classes will be offered soon (focus on juniors)
 - Course selection window will be in February
 - Schedule for the upcoming year is built on the course requests from students
 - Tom mentioned 2 concerns – (1) students are dropping classes they need for graduation and (2) groups of friends are scheduling classes together all day long. This is causing management problems in many classrooms.
 - Tom asked if anyone is opposed to taking some of the freedom of arena scheduling away. Some parents like the freedom of scheduling on their own. Others understand the problems it is causing at the school, but would like the option to change classes, etc. if needed through the counselors.
 - Christina Shaw mentioned that there are pros and cons to both.

PTSA INPUT:

- Holly Judkins represented PTSA
- They have raised a lot more money for their scholarship fund than anticipated and are excited to present at the end of the year.
- PTSA date for visiting the Capital – February 6
- Date set for Parent Night? Topic still vaping?
 - Holly will look into this further. Tom will send names of people/entities that have emailed him requesting to come and speak.
 - Katie Tatton expressed concerns about the amount of vaping and use of Xanax in our school.

- Tom explained that we are getting a new hall monitor and we also have a new resource office that will be expected to patrol the bathrooms and halls more than in the past.
- This month we will be educating our faculty on vaping.
- Teacher of the Year – award form. Fill out and return to PTSA “mail box” in the office.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

- CSIP and Land Trust – Reminder that Feb. mtg will be short to be able to focus on this after, instead of a smaller committee meeting at a different time. All welcome to stay and be a part of this discussion.
 - 2/5 there will be an all day BLT (building leadership team – consists of department heads) meeting will discuss data and direction of the school. Tom said he would send the data used in this meeting to SCC so they are prepared for our discussion next month.
- Update on Construction
 - More precise updates will be given in February
 - All major facilities have been approved by the school board
 - April 7, 2020 – field house will be complete
 - June 2020 – Performing Arts wing will be complete
 - Rocky Mtn. Power is the biggest hold up. We are experiencing delays on permits.
 - The budget has been approved and at this point, we are getting everything we need.
- Cell Tower Fund Update - No Action taken.
 - Link Crew – Junior/Senior students are trained to act as mentors for Sophomores/Freshmen. We train the mentors. They conduct freshmen orientation.
 - We need to send 2 teachers to the training. Janice Spencer-Wise and Nicole Shon.
 - \$6,500 for training. This amount is within Tom’s approved “budget” to spend without vote. But he wanted to make sure we all knew where it was going to.
- State’s BHS Report Card results – Link provided below
 - We did well and had no areas of concern
 - Next year, they will go back to letter grades. They were waiting for the state to implement new statewide testing. We will be using ASPIRE – ACT test. 9th and 10th graders take this test. Statewide ACT is February 20th. Late start day for all students. Teachers will be available for consultation.
 - <https://utahschoolgrades.schools.utah.gov/Home/SchoolOverAllPerformance?SchoolID=736&DistrictID=186056&SchoolNbr=705&SchoolLevel=HS&IsSplitSchool=0>
- Chinese Host Families Needed
 - Tom has done this for years at Jordan High School
 - Miniature exchange program
 - 21 students are coming January 19. Will be at Brighton for 5 days.
 - Families that host just need to provide transportation to and from school. For other activities, transportation will be provided
 - If you know of any families that are interested, please contact Tom. They don’t need to have students attending Brighton.
- Social Media Situation on December 7th
 - Explanation of what happened last month with the social media hoax (school threat)
 - Tom mentioned that because he was out of town, there were things that weren’t handled the same way they would have been if he had been here.
 - Students were proactive in saying something on SafeUT. This is exactly how SafeUT should work and we appreciate the students that took advantage of this app. Some also showed their teachers the “fake” posts. Thank you to those students as well.
 - It became such a significant disruption to the school that we excused all absences for 4th & 5th periods that day.

FACULTY REPORT:

- Attendance – how impacts Graduation?
 - Tom shared the attendance cards with the SCC committee.
 - Hadfield mentioned that teachers haven't had a chance to discuss attendance
 - P/T Conferences are next week.
 - Please check Skyward for attendance and grades

SCHOOL CLIMATE:

- Single Lunch Period – Survey completed. Stats sent home via email to all parents. (See below)
 - The library is using lunch passes now and this has helped with crowd control

OTHER:

- Graduation Date – Wed, June 5th at 2pm – Maverick Center
- FYI. Nancy Tingey is now the board president, Steve Wrigley and Amber Shill are VP's.
- Discussion of Cell Phone use at school – Rene Hunter
 - The district is looking at a district policy. It is only in the beginning phases.
 - There is community interest in data about cell phones, social media, etc.
 - A presentation will be held this spring, not sure of date or specific location yet, probably in Draper. Right now it is at an Elementary school – maybe see if they will move it to Corner Canyon to accommodate a larger attendance. The same presenter that we had last year.
 - There is a huge discrepancy in how teachers handle cell phones. Can we be consistent and define a policy or guidelines for Brighton High School?
 - Tom would like to address this and come up with norms. We could do this at a town hall meeting, have an SCC sub-committee, etc. We will discuss this more in our March Meeting.
 - Catherine Bates will look at her Digital Citizenship curriculum for cell phone protocols and follow up at our next meeting. She will see if there is a list of “Norms” or “Expectations”.
 - Rene Hunter will research experts who talk to schools.
 - Will Powley will also look into this.

CELEBRATIONS:

- 8 Academic All-State Athletes that were recognized on Bengal News this week
- Spencer Fackrell won the state competition for a sportsmanship video. Lisa will send the link to SCC members to view this video that was shown today to the student body.
- Principal's Pantry has received a lot of donations. A staff member has contacted some students that we know of who may be in need of food. She had a conversation with them about how they would like to use the pantry and they would like it open all day at this point. We are creating a video for Bengal News to advertise that it is open and invite any student that is hungry or needs food to use it.
- FCCLA will be sponsoring a clothing drive
- Congratulations to Dance, Band/Orchestra and Choir for their great performances before the holidays.
- The School-wide fundraiser was a success. They gathered enough items to make over 300 hygiene kits and raised over \$9,000 to donate to local refugees.

Adjourned 5:36pm

NEXT MEETING: Feb 13th – Future meetings: Mar 13th, April 10th, May 8th

- Reminder that we will have a shortened meeting at 3:30pm. Then we will be discussing our LandTrust and CSIP Plans. Any interested in staying are welcome.

Single Lunch Stats:

- The results of our lunch survey are in and are as follows – who took the survey:

228 Parents

93 Faculty/Staff

983 Students

1304 responses total

Of the total:

92.3 % prefer one lunch vs. two lunches

82.3% prefer lunch scheduled after 4th period as compared to lunch scheduled after 3rd period

Based on this data, we will continue to hold one lunch scheduled after 4th period.

It is also important to note that we take your input seriously. A recurring comment was a concern over long lines in the cafeteria and the ability for all students who want to eat to get to eat in a timely manner. After observing lunch service last week, the lines in the cafeteria diminished with 20 minutes left in the lunch period. Also, students who waited to line up later in the lunch period, were served right away and did not wait in line. Based on our observations, it appears that all students who would like to eat lunch in the cafeteria have enough time and opportunity during the lunch period to get lunch and eat lunch. We are thankful to our cafeteria staff who are working hard to make our one lunch period successful.

- The library will be open during the lunch hour; however, we will be limiting the number of students who are allowed in the library. We have regularly been exceeding the fire code capacity of our library and managing the number of students at lunch will ensure the safety of all our students. Lunch passes will be available each morning at the main desk in the library and will be required to enter the library during lunch.
- Starting second trimester, the Counseling Center will only be open to students at lunch time who are participating in the Lunch Together table and/or who need a quiet place to be during lunch.